

Boston news letter. From Monday April 17 to Monday April 24, 1704. [Boston, 1704].

N. C. Numb. 1.

The Boston News-Letter.

Published by Authority.

From Monday April 17, to Monday April 24, 1704.

London Flying-Post from Decemb. 2 d. to 4 th. 1703.

LEtters from *Scotland* bring us the Copy of a Sheet lately Printed there, Intituted, *A seasonable Alarm for Scotland. In a Letter from a Gentleman in the City, to his Friend in the Country, concerning the present Danger of the Kingdom and of the Protestant Religion.*

This Letter takes Notice. That Pap Its swarm in that Nation, that they trattick more avowedly than formerly, and that of late many Scores of Priests & Jesuites are come thither from France, and gone to the North, to the Highlands & other places of the Country. That the Ministers of the Highlands and North gave in large Lists of them to the Committee of the General Assembly, to be laid before the Privy-Council.

It likewise observes, that a great Number of other ill-affected persons are come over from *France*, under presence of accepting her Majesty's Gracious Indemnity; but, in reality, to increase Divisions in the Nation, and to entertain a Correspondence with *France*: That their ill Intentions are evident from their talking big, their owning the Interest of the pretended King *James VIII*, their secret Cabals, and their buying up of Arms and Ammunition, wherever they can find them.

To this he adds the late Writings and Actings of some disaffected persons, many of whom are for that Pretender, that several of them have declared they had rather embrace Popery than conform to the present Government; that they refuse to pray for the Queen, but use the ambiguous word Sovereign, and some of them pray in express Words for the King and Royal Family; and the charitable and generous Prince who has shew'd them so much Kindness. He likewise takes notice of Letters, not long ago found in Cypher, & directed to a Person lately come thither from St. *Germain's*.

He says that the greatest Jacobites, who will not qualifie themselves by taking the Oaths to Her Majesty, do now with the Papifts and their Companions from St. *Germain's* set up for the Liberty of the Subject, contrary to their own Principles, but meerly to keep up a Division in the Nation. He adds, that they aggravate those things which the People complain of, as to *England's* refusing to allow them

a freedom of Trade, &c. and do all they can to soment Divisions betwixt the Nations, & to obstruct a Redress of those things complain'd of.

The Jacobites, he says, do all they can to persuade the Nation that their pretended King is a Protestant in his Heart, tho' he dares not declare it while under the Power of *France*, that he is acquainted with the Mistakes of his Father's Government, will govern to more according to Law, and endear himself to his Subjects.

They magnifie the Strength of their own Party, and the Weakness and Divisions of other, in order to facilitate and hasten their Undertaking; they argue themselves out of their Fears, and into the highest assurance of accomplishing their purpose.

From all this he infers, That they have hopes of Assistance from *France*, otherwise they would never be so impudent; and he gives Reasons for his Apprehensions that the *French* King may send Troops thither this Winter, 1. Because the *English & Dutch* will not then be at Sea to oppose them. 2. He can then best spare them, the Season of Action beyond Sea being over. 3. The Expectation given him of a considerable number to joyn them, may incourage him to the undertaking with fewer Men if he can but send over a sufficient number of Officers with Arms and Ammunition.

He endeavours in the rest of his Letters to answer the foolish Pretences of the Pretenders being a Protestant, and that he will govern us according to Law. He says, that being bred up in the Religion and Politicks of *France*, he is by Education a stated Enemy to our Liberty and Religion. That the Obligations which he and his Family owe to the *French* King must necessarily make him to be wholly at his Devotion, and to follow his Example; that if he sit upon the Throne, the three Nations must be oblig'd to pay the Debt which he owes the *French* King for the Education of himself, and for Entertaining his Father and his Family. And since the King must restore him by his Troops, if ever he be restored, he will see to secure his own Debt, before those Troops leave *Britain*. The Pretender being a good Proficient in the *French* and *Remijh* Schools, he will never think himself sufficiently aveng'd, but by the utter Ruine of his Protestant Subjects, both as Hereticks and Traitors. The late Queen, his pretended Mother, who in cold Blood when she was Queen of *Britain*, advis'd to turn the West of *Scotland* into a hunting Field, will be then for doing so by the greatest part of the Nation, and, no doubt, is at Pains to have her pretended Son educated to her own Mind: Therefore, he says, it were a great Madness in the Nation to take a Prince bred up in the horrid School of Ingratitude, Persecution and Cruelty, and filled with Rage and Envy. The *Jacobies*, he says, both in *Scotland* and at St. *Germain*s, are impatient under their present Straits, and knowing their Circumstances cannot be much worse than they are, at present, are the more inclinable to the Undertaking. He adds, That the *French* King knows there cannot be a more effectual way for himself to arrive at the Universal Monarchy, and to ruine the Protestant Interest, than by setting the Pretender upon the Throne of

Great Britain, he will in all probability attempt it; and tho' he should be persuaded that the Design would miscarry in the close, yet he cannot but reap some Advantage by imbroiling the three Nations.

From all this the Author concludes it to be the Interest of the Nation, to provide for Self defence; and says, that as many have already taken the Alarm, and are furnishing themselves with Arms and Ammunition, he hopes the Government will not only allow it, but encourage it, since the Nation ought all to appear as one Man in the Defence of

1704 THE 250th ANNIVERSARY OF SUCCESSFUL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING IN AMERICA 1954

Gift International Newspaper Collector's Club June 7, 1954

of our Gracious Sovereign the Queen and her just Right and Title to the Crown, against the Bloody Designs of Papists and Jacobites.

Dublin, Nov. 27. A Speech was made by a Member of Parliament, setting forth the great Danger the Protestants were in, in some parts of *Ireland*, particularly the County of *Limick*, where the *Irish* were beginning to form themselves into Bodies, and to plunder the Protestants of their Arms and Money. And that the disaffected here held a Correspondence with those in *England*, and were not our of hopes of restoring the pretended Prince of *Wales*.

There's no doubt but there is a Design among the Papists to do mischief, and it may be justly said they have begun already for Letters yesterday say that a Body of Papists had got together in the County of *Limerick*, had marched in a hostile manner through several Towns, particularly *Askeiting*, and had Plunder'd and disarm'd several Protestants, and killed one *Green*, a Protestant, for appearing as a Witness in the first Court of Claims against one *Tady O Quin*, an *Irish* Papist. It's said there are several more little Parties of *Irish* up in that Country, which put the Protestants in a mighty Consternation.

London Gazette Decemb. 16. to 20 th. 1703.

Westminster, Decemb. 17.

HEr Majesty came this day to the House of Peers, attended with the usual Solemnity; and being Seated on the Throne in Her Royal Robes, Sir *David Mitchel* Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message to the House of Commons, requiring their Attendance in the House of Commons, requiring their Attendance in the House of Peers whither they came accordingly; And Her Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to *An Act for Granting an Aid to Her Majesty by a Land Tax, to be raised in the Year One thousand seven hundred and four.*

After which Her Majesty made the following most Gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Think it proper upon this Occasion to acquaint you, That I have had Unquestionable Informations of very ill Practices and Designs carried on in Scotland by Emissaries from France, which might have proved extremely Dangerous to the Peace of these Kingdoms, as you will see by the Particulars, which shall be laid before you as soon as the fever. Examinations relating to this Matter can be fully perfected, and made publick without Prejudice: In the mean time, I make no Doubt, but by this Seasonable Discovery I shall be able to give such Directions for Our Security, as will Effectually Prevent any ill Consequences from these Pernicious Designs.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I am very Sensible of your great Readiness and Affection for the Publick Service, by Presenting Me so early in the Sessions with a considerable Part of your Supplies; I depend entirely upon your Continuing with the same Zeal to dispatch the Remainder of them; that so we may be Prepared to give the speedick Assistance to Our Allies, and to defeat the malicious Designs of Our Enemies; who cannot be more Industrians to Contrive the Ruine of this Kingdom, and of the Protestant Religion, than I shall always be Vigilant and Careful, both for their present Preservation, and for their future Security.

Boston, April 18 Arrived Capt. Sill from Jamaica about 4 Weeks Passage, says, they continue there very Sickly. Mr. Nathanael Oliver, a principal Merchant of this place dyed April 15 & was desently inter'd April 18. Æt?tis. 53.

The Honourable Col. *Nathanael Byfield*, Esq. is Commissioned Judge of the Admiralty for the Provinces of *Massachusetts-Bay, New-Hampshire and Rhode-Island*. And *Thomas Newton* Esq. Judge-Deputy for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

The 10. the Rd. Mr. *Pemberton* Preach'd an Excellent Sermon on a *Thes. 4,11. Antbdo your own business*; Exhorting all Ranks & Degrees of Persons to do their own work, in order to a REFORMATION: which His Excellency has ordered to be Printed.

The 21. His Excellency Dissolved the Gen. Assembly.

Rhode-Island, 22. The Rd. Mr. *Lockyer* dyed on Thurslast.

Capt. *Toungrello* has taken Five Prizes off of *Currasoa*, one of which is come in to *Rhode-Island* mostly Loaden with *Cocco*, *Tobacco*, *Liquors*, &c. She is a *Curraloe* Trader, as all the rest were. One of the five was one *Larew* a *French-man*, a Sloop of 8 Guns & 8 Patterato's, 76 Men, Fought him Board and Board three Glasses; Captain *Larew* was kill'd, and 20 of his Men kill'd & wounded: Capt. *Toungrello* wounded thro' the Body, and five of his men, but none kill'd, he had but 40 Fighting Men, when he took *Larew*.

The 18 Currant, came in a Sloop to this Port from *Virginia*, the Master informed Governour *Cranston* Esq. he was Chased by a Topsail Shallop off of *Block-Island*, which he judged to be *French* Privateer, and that there was two other Vessels in her Company, which he judged to be her Prizes. Whereupon his Honour being concerned for the Publick Weal and Safety of Her Majesties good Subjects, immediately caused the Drum to beat for Voluntiers, under the Command of Capt. *Wanton*, and in 3 or four hours time Fitted and Man'd a Brigantine, with 70 brisk young men well Arm'd, who Sail'd the following Night, returned last Evening, and gave his Honour an Account that they found the aforesaid Shallop, with one other, and a Ketch at *Tarpelian* Cove, who were all Fishing Vessels belonging to *Marblehead* or *Salem*, who were Fishing off of *Black-Island*, one of them was a *French* built Shallop with a Topsail, which gave the great suspicion that they were Enemies.

New-Terl, April, 17. By a Barque from *Jamaica*, last from *Bermuda*, 7 Weeks Passage, says, there was an Imbargo in that Island several Months, occasioned by New they had of a design the *French* & *Spaniards* had, to make a descent upon them: She came out with the Homewar bound *London* Fleet, who are gone home without Convoy;

Capt. *Davison* in the Eagle Gally, Sailes for *London*, in a Month, if the *Virginia* Fleet stays so long; he intends to keep them Company Home, if not, to run for it, being Built for that Service.

Philadelphia, April, 14. An Account that the *Dreadnaught* Man of War was Arrived in *Maryland*.

N. London, April 20. The Adventure, A Vessel 60 Tuns, will Sail from thence to *London*, in three Weeks or a Months time.

Advertisement

THis News Letter is to be continued Weekly; and all Persons who have any Houses, Lands, Tenements, Farmes, Ships Vessels, Goods, Wares and Merchandizes, &c. to be Sold. or Lett; or Servants Run away; or Goods Stoll or Lost, may have the same Inserted at a Reasonable Rate; from Twelve Pence to Five Shillings and not to exceed: Who may agree with *Nichols*, *Boone* for the same at his Shop, next door to Major *Davis's*, Apothecars in *Boston*, near the Old Meeting-House.

All Persons in Town and Country may have said News-Letter Weekly upon reasonable terms, agreeing with *John Campbell*, Post-Master for the same.

Easton, Printed by *B. Green*. Sold by *Nicholas Boone*, at his Shop near the Old Meeting-House.

Reprinted from the original in the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts, by the International Newspaper collector's Club, Box 7271, Phoenix, Arizona

copy Part. 33/5a, Part 1 of 6

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Reprinted by the International Newspaper Collector;s Club, Post Office Box 7271, Phoenix, Arizona, U. S. A. Additional copies this reprint are, postpaid: Single copy 10c. Five copies 25c. Twenty-five copies \$1.

Part 33/5a Copy 2 Part 2/6

A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

On the 24th of April in the year 1704 was published the first issue of America's first successful newspaper, THE BOSTON NEWS LETTER. Printed by Postmaster John Campbell of that colonial village, it consisted of a small sheet of foolscap printed on both sides. From this small beginning was to spring the vast newspaper enterprise of today.

Born in the midst of the poverty and ignorance of the early 18th century, our newspapers struggled up in the world until they became powerful and indispensable members of our communities. Few American institutions have so distinguished a heritage as do our newspapers, and none can boast so long and faithful a record of public service.

The newspaper which lands on your doorstep today represents two and a half centuries of progress in the field of news gathering. It is the polished product of the efforts of hundreds of thousands of people who have dedicated their lives to the business of collecting and distributing current information.

On this 250th anniversary of successful newspaper publishing in America, we who make a hobby of preserving these priceless memorabilia of the past, commend to our fellow citizens a due observance of the immeasurable contribution of the newspaper to our way of life. To fittingly mark this occasion, we have reprinted in gold a facsimile of the first issue of the BOSTON NEWS LETTER. A copy of this golden souvenir is enclosed, and is sent with our compliments and good wishes.



INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER COLLECTOR'S CLUB.

April 24, 1954.

Mrs. Frances F. Page, Head April 23, 1954 Gift Section Exchange & Gift Division Frederick R. Goff,
Chief Rare Books Division

Boston News Letter

Herewith I transmit for acknowledgment two facsimiles of the first issue of the Boston News Letter which are the gift of the International Newspaper Collector's Club, P. O. Box 7271, Phoenix, Arizona. After acknowledgment these should be forwarded here for assignment to our broadside collection.

Enclosure

??RD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Mrs. Frances F. Page, Head DATE: April 23, 1954 Gift Section Exchange & Gift Division

FROM: Frederick R. Goff, Chief Rare Books Division

SUBJECT: Boston News Letter

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Frederick R. Goff

Refer to: AG

JUN 10 1954

Gentlemen:



The Acting Librarian of Congress has requested me to acknowledge, with many thanks, your most generous gift to this Library of two facsimilies of the first issue of the Boston News Letter (From Monday April 17 to Monday April 24, 1704).

We are grateful for your interest and generosity.

Sincerely yours, Alton M. Keller, Chief Exchange and Gift Division International Newspaper Collector's Club P.O. Box 7271 Phoenix, Arizona RAH 6/7/54